

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 20th December 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR AVargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. ALEXANDER MACLEAN MACDOUGALL took the prescribed oath of allegiance to the Crown and then took his seat.

II

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Education of the Pattani Mussalmans of Malabar.

612 Q.—Mr. A. D. M. BAVOTTI SAHIB : With reference to my question No. 204 at the meeting of the Council held on 14th September 1922 regarding the Pattani Mussalmans of Malabar and the answer thereto, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased—

(a) to state whether the said Mussalmans are given the same facilities and concessions in the following respects as their Mappilla brethren :—

- (i) scholarships to pupils in elementary and secondary schools ;
- (ii) concessions for appointments in the Educational department ;
- (iii) scholarships to pupils in the School of Commerce, Calicut ;
- (iv) exemption from examination rules for public service ; and

(b) to call for a report from the head of the Educational department regarding the state and condition of education among the Pattani Mussalmans ?

A.—The Government have no information but will call for information.

Non-Mappilla Muhammadan representation in the Police department in Malabar.

613 Q.—Mr. A. D. M. BAVOTTI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether non-Mappilla Mussalmans of Malabar are given the same concessions and facilities in the selections of sub-inspectors of Police and whether there is at least a single non-Mappilla Muhammadan in Malabar as sub-inspector ?

[20th December 1922]

A.—The appointment of sub-inspectors is regulated by G.O. No. 635, Judicial, dated 8th March 1916, which was placed on the Editors' Table. As to the latter part of the question the Government have no information.

Introduction of Bill for Vizagapatam Harbour.

614 Q.—Mr. V. HAMID SULTAN MARAKKAYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state when the Bill for Vizagapatam Harbour will be introduced?

A.—There are several interests to be consulted and it is not possible to name a date at present.

The Cauvery Reservoir project.

615 Q.—Mr. K. A. KANDASWAMI KANDAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(1) when the Government proposed to undertake the Cauvery Reservoir project (Mettur);

(2) whether the Government of Mysore have forwarded their final arbitration report regarding this project; and

(3) how many villages of Salem district are likely to be affected by this project and what is the area to be affected in those villages by it?

A.—(1) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 409. As the project will require the sanction of the Secretary of State, it cannot be stated when it will be undertaken.

(2) The question is not understood.

(3) 7,408 acres in 12 villages in Omalur and Dharmapuri taluks.

Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI:—"The answer to question No. 615 (2) is given as 'the question is not understood'. I presume that when a question is not understood it is generally the practice to ask the member concerned what he exactly means by it. May I know if that was done in this case?"

The hon. Mr. K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I generally answer the question as it is sent to me. The question is whether the Government of Mysore have forwarded their final arbitration report regarding the project. That is wholly unintelligible to me, Sir."

Mr. T. SIVASANKARAM PILLAI:—"It is likely that the question is unintelligible to the Member. But if there is difficulty about it, it is perfectly open to the hon. Member for Government or the Legislative Council Office to refer back the draft question and ask the member concerned what he actually means by it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I take it that the hon. Member says that his suggestion may with advantage be introduced as a practice hereafter. But that is hardly a supplementary question."